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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 01698 051519Z

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TAGS: EMAE, ENRG, UR

SUBJ: SOVIET MACHINE BUILDING: DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL
OF MINISTERS DISCUSSES PLANS AND PROBLEMS OF INDUSTRY

1. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY - VLADIMIR NOVIKOV, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF USSR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, DESCRIBES PLANS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SOVIET MACHINE BUILDING DURING 10TH FYP (1976-80) IN FEBRUARY 3 TRUD ARTICLE. NOVIKOV CITES TWO MAJOR PROBLEMS IN MACHINE BUILDING AS NEED FOR FEW EXAMPLES EACH OF CERTAIN PIECES OF SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT FOR INDIVIDUAL INDUSTRIAL
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 01698 051519Z

BRANCHES AND LACK OF ADEQUATE PREPARATORY BASE (SUPPLY OF

METAL CASTINGS AND FORGINS) FOR INDUSTRY. IN BOTH CASES NOVIKOV RECOMMENDS AS SOLUTION ORGANIZATION OF PRODUCTION OF NEEDED ITEMS WITHIN INDIVIDUAL BRANCHES, RATHER THAN PLACING BURDEN ON ONE SINGLE MINISTRY. ACCORDING TO NOVIKOV, EMPHASIS DURING 10TH FYP WILL BE ON EXPANSION AND REEQUIPPING OF EXISTING PLANTS, WITH SUBSTANTIALLY LESS NEW CONSTRUCTION THAN IN PREVIOUS YEARS. EFFORTS TO INTENSIFY PRODUCTION WILL INCLUDE INCREASED UTILIZATION OF EQUIPMENT BY ADDING NEW SHIFTS, RAISING LABOR PRODUCTIVITY AND LOWERING COSTS PARTICULARLY THROUGH REDUCING EXCESSIVE WEIGHT OF MACHINES. END INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

2. IN FULL-PAGE REPORT ENTITLED "NEW BOUNDARIES OF MACHINE BUILDING", DEPUTY CHAIRMAN NOVIKOV AS USUAL STARTS WITH "WELL-DONE" FOR 9TH FYP PERFORMANCE, WHICH IN ADDITION RAISING GROSS OUTPUT LAST YEAR TO 1.7 TIMES 1970 TOTAL INCLUDED DEVELOPMENT 16,500 NEW TYPES MACHINES AND INSTRUMENTS. DURING 9TH FYP SAVINGS OF "OVER 3 BILLION RUBLES" RESULTED FROM 51,000 INVENTIONS AND OVER 4 MILLION RECOMMENDATIONS FROM INDUSTRY WORKERS. TOTAL OUTPUT DURING 10TH FYP IS SET AT 1.5-1.6 TIMES 9TH FYP OUTPUT.

3. AREAS OF MAJOR EMPHASIS IN 10TH FYP INCLUDE:

-- ENERGY (500-800 THOUSAND KW ORGANIC FUEL PLANTS AND 1-1.5 MILLION KW ATOMIC POWER PLANTS);

-- METALLURGY (LARGE CAPACITY CONTINUOUS POURING UNITS, 400-TON CONVERTORS, MODER ROLLING, TUBE AND TUBE-WELDING MILLS);

-- ELECTRO-TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT;

-- CHEMICAL/PETROCHEMICAL (FERTILIZER PRODUCTION MACHINERY, OIL EXTRACTION EQUIPMENT, LARGE COMMERCIAL REFRIGERATION UNITS);

-- AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY (1980 OUTPUT OF 2.1-2.2 MILLION VEHICLES, INCLUDING 800-825 THOUSAND TRUCKS);
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PAGE 03 MOSCOW 01698 051519Z

-- AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY (165-HP K-701" AND "T-150K" TRACTORS, IMPROVED GRAIN COMBINES);

-- EQUIPMENT FOR INDUSTRIAL, HIGHWAY AND HOUSING CONSTRUCTION (INCREASED MECHANIZATION OF ALL PHASES, WITH SPECIAL EFFORT TO DEVELOP AUTOMATED LINES FOR DRY CEMENT PRODUCTION);

-- EQUIPMENT FOR LIGHT AND FOOD INDUSTRY;

-- MACHINE TOOLS (GREATER AUTOMATION, NUMERICAL CONTROL MACHINES, NEW SERIES COMPUTER CONTROLLED EQUIPMENT);

-- INSTRUMENT MAKING (COMPUTERS FOR AUTOMATED PROCESS CONTROL, SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH EQUIPMENT, QUALITY CONTROL AND TECHNICAL DIAGNOSTIC INSTRUMENTS).

4. IN ADDITION TO THESE SPECIFIC AREAS, NOVIKOV MENTIONED PRODUCTION OF NEW EQUIPMENT FOR NON-FERROUS METALLURGY, MINING AND COAL INDUSTRY. PLANS FOR RAILWAY TRANSPORT INCLUDE NEW FREIGHT AND PASSENGER DIESEL LOCOMOTIVES, MORE CONTAINERS, AND INCREASED MECHANIZATION OF MATERIALS HANDLING OPERATIONS WHICH HE ESTIMATES WILL FREE "HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF WORKERS" FOR MORE SOPHISTICATED JOBS. IMPORTANT TARGET IN SEVERAL AREAS (ATOMIC POWER PLANTS, DIESEL ENGINES IN RAILWAY AND AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY) IS LOWER CONSUMPTION OF ORGANIC FUELS. MAJOR PROJECT IN MACHINE TOOL INDUSTRY DESCRIBED AS ORGANIZATION OF LARGE SERIAL PRODUCTION OF COMPLEXES OF AUTOMATED LINES WHICH CAN BE RAPIDLY RE-ADJUSTED FOR PREPARATION OF DETAILS OF DIFFERENT MEASUREMENTS. LINKED WITH PROCESSING CENTERS, THESE WILL SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE TIME LAG WHEN SWITCHING PRODUCTION TO NEW PRODUCTS. TOTAL OUTPUT OF AUTOMATION EQUIPMENT AND INSTRUMENTS IS PLANNED TO GO UP 1.6-1.7 TIMES, WHILE COMPUTER EQUIPMENT WILL EXPAND 1.8 TIMES.

5. NOVIKOV CITES AS CONTINUING PROBLEM FOR SEVERAL MACHINE BUILDING INDUSTRIES NEED FOR CERTAIN "NARROWLY UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 MOSCOW 01698 051519Z

SPECIALIZED" PIECES OF EQUIPMENT FOR THEIR OWN PRODUCTION USES. REQUIREMENT TO PRODUCE ONLY FEW COPIES OF SUCH SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT HAS BEEN MAJOR FACTOR IN PREVENTING MINISTRY OF INSTRUMENT MAKING PLANTS FROM CARRYING OUT BASIC TASK OF SERIAL PRODUCTION OF METAL-CUTTING TOOLS AND PRESSES FOR ALL SOVIET INDUSTRY. FOR THIS REASON NOVIKOV RECOMMENDS THAT EACH INDUSTRIAL BRANCH ITSELF UNDERTAKE PRODUCTION OF THOSE FEW SPECIALIZED TOOLS NEEDED. SIMILARLY NOVIKOV SAYS THAT SOLUTION TO PRESENT UNSATISFACTORY SUPPLY OF METAL CASTINGS, FORGINGS AND STAMPINGS FOR MACHINE BUILDING LIES IN LARGE SCALE "IN-HOUSE" PRODUCTION OF THESE SEMI-FINISHED ARTICLES. IN PARTICULAR IN THE AUTOMOBILE, AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY, CHEMICAL, HEAVY AND ENERGY MACHINE BUILDING INDUSTRIES, NOVIKOV SEES "FULL JUSTIFICATION FOR CREATING WITHIN

LARGE PRODUCTION ASSOCIATIONS AND ENTERPRISES SPECIALIZED
FOUNDRY PLANTS AND WORKSHOPS WHICH SHOULD PRODUCE CASTINGS
NOT ONLY FOR THEIR OWN USE BUT ALSO FOR OTHER ENTERPRISES
LOCATED IN A GIVEN ECONOMIC REGION."

6. THE 1976 PLAN SPECIFIES AN 8.6 PERCENT INCREASE IN
MACHINE BUILDING, ESPECIALLY IN ATOMIC POWER EQUIPMENT,
METALLURGY, CHEMICAL/PETROCHEMICAL PLANTS. NOVIKOV SAYS
THAT 30 PERCENT OF METAL CUTTING AND 25 PERCENT OF SHAPING
MACHINERY WILL BE USED TO REPLACE OBSOLETE EQUIPMENT IN
EXISTING PLANTS, WITH GOAL OF RAISING OVERALL TECHNOLOGICAL
LEVEL. WHILE 10TH FYP WILL INCLUDE SOME NEW CONSTRUCTION
MAJOR AIM IS TO BE INTENSIFICATION OF PRODUCTION THROUGH
MORE SHIFTS USING PRESENT EQUIPMENT, THUS ACHIEVING HIGHER
LABOR PRODUCTIVITY. NOVIKOV GIVES ESTIMATE OF 1.5 BILLION
RUBLE PER YEAR INCREASE IN GROSS OUTPUT BY OBTAINING 2
KOPECKS MORE IN UTILIZATION FROM EACH RUBLE'S WORTH OF
CAPITAL EQUIPMENT. EFFORTS TO IMPROVE PRODUCTION
TECHNOLOGY, ESPECIALLY THROUGH REDUCED WEIGHT OF MACHINES,
IS INTENDED TO REDUCE MATERIAL AND LABOR COSTS.

7. COMMENT - PRESUMABLY NOVIKOV WRITES WITH BOTH KNOWL-
EDGE AND AUTHORITY, SINCE MACHINE BUILDING IS WITHIN HIS
AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY AS A DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. THIS ARTICLE SHOULD PROVIDE, THERE-
FORE, ACCURATE INDICATIONS OF IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENT PLANS,
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UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 MOSCOW 01698 051519Z

WHICH POINT TO POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUTURE SALES
OF WESTERN TECHNOLOGY. IN SOVIET EYES, SUCCESSFUL
ACCOMPLISHMENT OF PLAN TARGETS WILL DEPEND LARGELY ON
EFFECTIVE MECHANIZATION AND AUTOMATION OF PRODUCTION,
INCLUDING GREATLY EXPANDED APPLICATION OF COMPUTERS.
ACCORDING TO A STATEMENT BY DIMITRIY ZHIMERIN, FIRST
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY, AT A JANUARY 30 PRESS CONFERENCE (TASS
VESTNIK, FEBRUARY 2), 90 PERCENT OF ALL INDUSTRIAL PRO-
DUCTION GROWTH DURING THE 10TH FYP WILL COME FROM
MECHANIZATION AND AUTOMATION OF LABOR. THE SHARE OF
INCREASED OUTPUT IN THE MACHINE BUILDING INDUSTRY WOULD
APPEAR TO BE AT LEAST THAT HIGH, JUDGED BY
NOVIKOV'S ARTICLE.
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